GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
TOURISM AND CULTURE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1039
ANSWERED ON:24.02.2003
UPGRADATION OF TOURIST FACILITIES AT TAJ MAHAL
S. MURUGESAN

Will the Minister of TOURISM AND CULTURE be pleased to state:

(a)whether any projects have been planned/launched to make Taj Mahal more tourist friendly by beautifying the heritage complexes and upgrading facilities;

(b)if so, whether efforts are being made to acquire agricultural land for Taj National Park Project; (

(c)if so, whether there is any proposal to seek permission from Supreme Court for opening the Taj Mahal for viewing at night;

(d)if so, whether there is also any proposal to beautify the Yamuna river front; and

(e)if so, the details thereof and by when the same is likely to be completed?

Answer

MINISTER FOR TOURISM AND CULTURE (SHRI JAGMOHAN)

(a)Yes, Sir.

(b)The work is being undertaken by the Horticulture Department of the Government of Uttar Pradesh.

(c)The matter is under consideration.

(d)&(e)Yes, Sir. As per the directions of the Hon`ble Supreme Court of India,the Taj Trapezium Zone Project Heritage Corridor is to be developed by connecting the following monuments such as Ram Bagh, Itmad-ud-daulah, Agra Fort and Taj Mahalsituated on the banks of the river Yamuna. The disilting work of the river Yamuna has already been started by the National Projects Construction Corporation Ltd. a Government of India undertaking. The Heritage Corridor is to be executed by the Uttar Pradesh Pollution Contro Board. As this project has several agencies and sub-components, the time frame cannot be indicated.